

Attorney Docket No.: 47004.000115
Application No. 09/985,900

The following is a listing of the claims under revised 37 C.F.R. 1.121.

1-47 (Canceled)

48. (New) A system for managing a transmission of funds for a payment initiator, comprising:

an input portion that inputs first information from a payment initiator, the first information including payment source information and payee information;

a payment platform database that includes payment platform information; and

a processor, the processor communicating with the input portion and the payment platform database so as to input the first information and access select payment platform information, the processor:

identifying a single payment source based on the payment source information, the single payment source being the source of funds for the transmission of funds;

identifying a payee account based on the payee information;

performing, after identifying the single payment source and the payee account, an optimization determination to determine a payment mechanism to use to transfer the funds from the single payment source to the payee account, the processor using the first information and payment platform information in the optimization determination; and

effecting the transmission of funds from the single payment source to the payee account using the payment mechanism.

49. (New) The system of claim 48, wherein the processor identifying a single payment source includes the processor inputting the single payment source from the input portion.

50. (New) The system of claim 48, wherein the processor identifying a single

Attorney Docket No.: 47004.000115
Application No. 09/985,900

payment source includes the processor performing a second optimization process to determine the single payment source.

51. (New) The system of claim 50, wherein the processor inputs a plurality of selected payment sources, and performs the second optimization determination to determine which one of the selected payment sources is the single payment source.

52. (New) The system of claim 51, wherein the input portion provides for the payment initiator to select the plurality of selected payment sources.

53. (New) The system of claim 48, wherein the payment initiator is presented with at least two payment sources that meet payment schedule data and the payment initiator presented with the associated costs of the at least two sources, and the payment initiator is permitted to manually choose the single payment source.

54. (New) The system of claim 53, wherein the processor identifying a single payment source includes the processor inputting the single payment source from the input portion.

55. (New) The system of claim 48, wherein
wherein the processor determines from a set of payment mechanisms a reduced set of payment mechanisms, the reduced set being a set of payment mechanisms from which the payment mechanism is selected, the reduced set of payment mechanisms including at least two payment mechanisms.

56. (New) The system of claim 48, wherein the optimization determination comprises a calculation of at least one of payee account data, payment schedule data, payment type data and privacy data.

57. (New) The system of claim 48, wherein the single payment source comprises at

Attorney Docket No.: 47004.000115
Application No. 09/985,900

least one of a direct deposit account, a source credit account, a mortgage account, a securities account, a money market account, a micro payment account, an overdraft account and a stored value account.

58. (New) The system of claim 48, wherein the payee account comprises at least one of a utility account, a mortgage account, a payee credit account, and a contribution account.

59. (New) The system of claim 48, wherein the input portion is a telephone connection.

60. (New) The system of claim 48, wherein the input portion is a network connection.

61. (New) The system of claim 60, wherein the network connection comprises a remote client from which a user may communicate transaction instructions.

62. (New) The system of claim 61, wherein the remote client comprises at least one of a computer, a network-enabled cellular telephone, a portable digital assistant, a paging device, and a set-top box.

63. (New) The system of claim 60, wherein the payment initiator comprises at least one of a consumer, a business entity and a government entity.

64. (New) The system of claim 48, wherein input portion comprises a desktop graphical user interface directly communicating with the processor.

65. (New) The system of claim 48, wherein the optimization determination includes at least one of minimizing a cost variable, fulfilling a transaction schedule, utilizing a determined affiliation between the single payment source and the payee account, maximizing security, maximizing reliability, minimizing risk, fulfilling a contractual obligation, maximizing volume discounts, aggregating a transaction amounts, maximizing a transaction amount and maximizing

Attorney Docket No.: 47004.000115
Application No. 09/985,900

available bonus awards.

66. (New) The system of claim 48, wherein the optimization determination includes:
the processor performing processing so as to identify an affiliation between the single
payment source and the payee account; and

determining the payment mechanism based on the identified affiliation.

67. (New) The system of claim 48, wherein the optimization determination
comprises minimizing a cost variable, and the cost variable comprises at least one of a
transaction cost charged to the payment initiator and an internal cost absorbed by a payment
enabler, the payment enabler maintaining the processor.

68. (New) The system of claim 67, wherein the optimization determination
comprises utilization of third party associations and payment providers.

69. (New) The system of claim 68, wherein members of the third party associations
are systematically identified by at least one of real time calls to the third party association, and
real time calls to a datastore containing third party association member data which is
periodically updated.

70. (New) The system of claim 69, wherein an expense reduction resulting from
optimization of the cost variable is realized by at least one of the payment enabler and the
payment initiator.

71. (New) The system of claim 48, wherein the optimization determination
comprises a systematic identification and internal settlement for closed loop payments in which
the payment source and the payee account reside within one entity.

72. (New) The system of claim 48, wherein the transmission of funds comprises a
currency conversion.

APR 10 2008

Attorney Docket No.: 47004.000115
Application No. 09/985,900

73. (New) A computer implemented method for managing a transmission of funds for a payment initiator, comprising:
- inputting first information from a payment initiator, the first information including payment source information and payee information;
 - inputting, from a payment platform database, payment platform information; and
 - performing processing based on the first information and the payment platform information, the processing being performed by a processor, the processing including:
 - identifying a single payment source based on the payment source information, the single payment source being the source of funds for the transmission of funds;
 - identifying a payee account based on the payee information;
 - performing, after identifying the single payment source and the payee account, an optimization determination to determine a payment mechanism to use to transfer the funds from the single payment source to the payee account, the processing including using the first information and payment platform information in the optimization determination; and
 - effecting the transmission of funds from the single payment source to the payee account using the payment mechanism.
74. (New) The computer implemented method of claim 73, wherein performing the optimization determination comprises maximizing volume discounts.
75. (New) The computer implemented method of claim 73, wherein performing the optimization determination comprises aggregating transaction amounts.
76. (New) The computer implemented method of claim 73, wherein performing the optimization determination comprises maximizing a transaction amount and maximizing available bonus awards.

Attorney Docket No.: 47004.000115
Application No. 09/985,900

77. (New) The computer implemented method of claim 73, wherein the single payment source comprises one selected from the group consisting of a checking or other demand deposit account (DDA), money market fund, securities account, stored value account, credit card account, currency account, overdraft line of credit, micro payment account, and line of credit.

78. (New) The computer implemented method of claim 73, wherein the processor further performing a second optimization process, the second optimization process selecting the single payment source, from a plurality of payment sources, based on parameters.

79. (New) A system for managing a transmission of funds for a payment initiator, comprising:

an input portion that inputs first information from a payment initiator, the first information including payment source information and payee information;

a payment platform database that includes payment platform information; and

a processor, the processor communicating with the input portion and the payment platform database so as to input the first information and access select payment platform information, the processor:

identifying a single payment source based on the payment source information, the single payment source being the source of funds for the transmission of funds;

identifying a payee account based on the payee information;

performing, after identifying the single payment source and the payee account, an optimization determination to determine a payment mechanism to use to transfer the funds from the single payment source to the payee account, the processor using the first information and payment platform information in the optimization determination; and

effecting the transmission of funds from the single payment source to the payee

Attorney Docket No.: 47004.000115
Application No. 09/985,900

account using the payment mechanism.

the processor identifying a single payment source includes the processor performing a second optimization process to determine the single payment source, the processor inputting a plurality of selected payment sources, and performing the second optimization determination to determine which one of the selected payment sources is the single payment source;

the input portion providing for the payment initiator to select the plurality of selected payment sources; and

wherein the optimization determination comprises a calculation of at least one of payee account data, payment schedule data, payment type data and privacy data; and

wherein the optimization determination includes minimizing a cost variable, consideration of risk, and determination of whether there is an affiliation between the single payment source and the payee account.
